



3626  
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of: )  
**TORRES ET AL.** )  
 )  
Serial No. **09/774,393** ) Examiner: **L. NAJARIAN**  
 )  
Confirmation No. **3083** ) Art Unit: **3626**  
 )  
Filing Date: **JANUARY 31, 2001** ) Attorney Docket No. **124.2514**  
 )  
For: **PREPAID HEALTHCARE SYSTEM AND** )  
**METHOD OF PROVIDING SAME** )  
 )

RESPONSE TO REQUIREMENT FOR RESTRICTION/ELECTION

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

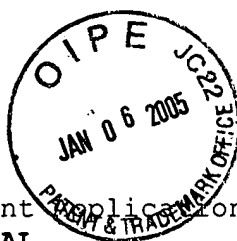
Sir:

In response to the restriction requirement of December 10, 2004, Applicants hereby elect Group II, Claims 10-19 and 43-54, with the understanding that if the subject matter of linking Claims 12-14 are allowable, then the claims of Group I, i.e., Claims 1-9 will be examined in the present application.

With the above in mind, however, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner use her discretion under 35 U.S.C. §121 and withdraw the restriction requirement since search and examination of the entire application can be made without serious burden.

Respectfully submitted,

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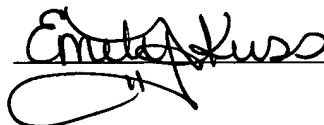


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**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing correspondence has been forwarded via U.S. Mail to Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of January, 2005.

  
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